

Feed grains exemption:

Grain Assn. rallies for trucking rules ease-up

The National Grain and Feed Assn. has urged the Interstate Commerce Commission to exempt livestock and poultry feed ingredients from trucking regulation.

The 1250-member trade association stated its position in its official comments responding to an ICC proceeding in which the commission is considering whether to exempt feed ingredients from regulation under authority granted by the Motor Carrier Act of 1980.

The ICC currently is evaluating whether to issue a declaratory order expanding the definition of livestock and poultry feed exempt from trucking regulation to include feed ingredients. Thus far, the ICC has considered feed ingredients to be regulated commodities subject to certain trucking restrictions.

However, in announcing its review of the matter, the ICC indicated its intention to expand the exemption to include feed ingredients, a

move commended by the NGFA. "The exemption of livestock and poultry feed ingredients is of vital concern to our members," the association said. The NGFA's position was based upon its transportation policy, which supports regulatory exemption from the Interstate Commerce Act for truck shipments of natural and poultry feed, as well as for feed ingredients consisting of products of the milling, processing or manufacture of grains or oilseeds.

"We consider it logical to conclude that since the end product (livestock and poultry feed) is exempt from trucking regulation, all of its ingredients should be exempt," the NGFA states. The NGFA cited the legislative history of the Motor Carrier Act of 1980, during which the bill's floor manager, Rep. James J. Howard, D-N.J., stated that the term "livestock and poultry feed" contained in the act includes both the prepared feed and the oilseed meal and grain product feed.

Study tries track-down of anaplasmosis cause

Veterinary medical researchers completed tests on 290 cows and calves recently in an effort to track down the major way anaplasmosis infects cattle in the Intermountain West.

Dr. John Maas, an assistant professor on the University of Idaho faculty at the Washington, Oregon and Idaho regional veterinary program (WON), said the tests on two herds of cattle south of Twin Falls, Idaho, culminated the first year of a project on the rickettsial disease.

"The push of our research is primarily finding out how the disease is transmitted," said Maas, who is stationed at the University of Idaho's Veterinary Teaching Center at Caldwell. "It is very difficult to control or eradicate the disease if we don't know how it's transmitted."

The primary transmitter or vector of the disease is not well-defined. The vectors are transmitting a rickettsial parasite — anaplasma marginale — that multiplies in red blood cells and is the cause of an accompanying anemia.

The potential transmission routes include unsanitary surgical or vaccination methods or biological methods such as biting flies and

ticks, said Maas. In California, the dense population of wildlife carriers and infected cattle is the source of the disease and ticks and flies the primary vectors, said Maas. In the Midwest, horse flies seem to be the primary vectors.

The variety of ecosystems in the Intermountain West

may make it difficult to make a definite statement on the disease's transmission, but it is apparently different from that in other areas of the country, said Maas.

The age of an animal which becomes infected affects whether it can survive that disease, said Maas. Very few cattle die of

the disease while they are less than one year old, while 50% of the unvaccinated cattle over age two die if it is untreated.

The disease has a relatively long incubation period — as much as two months from the time an animal is infected until it shows symptoms, said Maas.

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Comments

Here in the Big Apple, or New York City, they've been celebrating St. Patrick's Day all day long, as they have for 200 consecutive years with colorful parades of people wearing the Green. This is the big event before the first days of spring, and with last year's dreadful price increases, particularly for fuel oil, the New Yorkers are ready for warmer days.

The extreme drought conditions you've been reading about Northeast were relieved to some extent by generous amounts of moisture early in March. But there still is only a 50-day water supply in the reservoirs, we were told, to meet the needs of industry and more than 20 million people.

Every kind of water conservation has been tried, and we understand that even flaky Greenwich Village here was able to cut its consumption of water last fall and winter by up to 60%. You figure out how they did it.

The purpose of this trip was to meet as many of our commercial advertisers in the central and eastern states as possible. We have run across lots of ideas that we'll share with you in future columns, especially those ideas dealing with the merchandising of our products to this area.

Many of you attended the National Cattleman's Assn. convention and took in the huge trade show there, and you were probably able to meet many of your commercial suppliers. While it might not seem possible, they are affected as much by the current depressed cattle situation as you or anybody else.

While visiting their offices, we told them that many knowledgeable people in our industry believe numbers of cattle are not the problem; the trouble is weight. More cattle were fed in the Midwest last year to excessive weights by farmers holding back for higher prices.

For instance, daily cattle slaughter figures have been running about six, seven or eight percent above a year ago, when they were rather low. It seems that in the past, we only got in trouble when we had a daily slaughter of 124,000 or more. Moreover, there appears to be little or no buildup in numbers, because we have been quoting cow/calf pairs as low as \$550. We won't see a buildup until these pair prices go above \$750 or \$800.

DICK CROW

WESTERN LIVESTOCK JOURNAL

News • Trends • Sales • Shows • Markets

March 23, 1981 Central Edition Vol. 60, No. 21

USDA's inventory marks low point

Signs of overproduction and slow marketing were evident in USDA's most recent cattle on feed report. Both marketings and placements for February were the smallest since 1975, according to the inventory. Marketings of fed cattle during February totaled 1.44 million, off nine percent from last year and 13% less than February, 1979. Placements of cattle and calves on feed in the seven states during February were 1.19 million, down three percent from last year and off nine percent from two years ago.

Cattle and calves on feed March 1 for slaughter market totaled 7.13 million head, down four percent from a year ago and 13% less than March, 1979. These figures mark the lowest total since 1975.

While analysts point out that the USDA report was only a monthly seven state, it showed cattle feeders remain overly optimistic, despite losing money on the (Continued on page 23)



Pork Congress address:

'Revise Delaney,' says Wampler

There is a growing realization that not all cancer-causing substances can be reduced or eliminated and it is time to strengthen this understanding through scientific data, said Rep. William Wampler (R-Va.) according to Commodity News Service (CNS).

For further coverage of the American Pork Congress see page 7.

Speaking at a seminar being held at the American Pork Congress, Wampler reiterated his position on the need to modify the Delaney Amendment and create a national science council to review scientific data relating to the food additive issue.

The nitrite issue sheds

light on "the bending of science to meet some notion the regulator had," Wampler said. The Food and Drug Administration had used preliminary findings to support the nitrite ban, he said. There is a need for overall legislation to provide a uniform national cancer assessment authority, he said.

Wampler said efforts must be made to determine the sources of data and consistent rules for individual food components must be used. Qualified scientists and the public must be included in decision-making regarding food additives, he said.

It is not possible to have a "risk-free society," Wampler said. Risks must be assessed in relation to other risks, and any change in current food safety laws

should build and revise substantive standards to include scientific advances, he said.

Science, not politics, should be used to form policy, Wampler said. Jim Turner, a Washington D.C. attorney, said the debate over the Delaney Clause will divert attention to a relatively narrow area of food safety, and there are a number of areas that need risk benefit examination.

"The Delaney Clause has been made into a visible symbol" that is obscuring the whole set of issues facing food safety legislation, Turner said.

The repeal of the Delaney Clause would not eliminate food safety problems and make the public more secure, Turner said.

The debate has created a tendency to think the clause

applies to more than it does since natural cancer-causing substances are not included in the clause, Turner said.

Those other areas need to be carefully examined to protect producers and consumers, Turner said. The USDA is currently conducting programs weighing positive versus negative aspects of these areas, he said.

The Delaney issue should not be a regulatory agency job, Turner said. The Delaney Clause should be dealt with by Congress who will not be diverted by the "relatively small and insignificant" Delaney Clause controversy, he said.

Scientific approaches are present in the overwhelming scheme of issues and "regulatory agencies do not need more procedures."

Although the USDA's Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service has increased its efforts to keep African Swine Fever from entering the U.S. by additional funds and more thorough checking of refugees for illegal meat, that disease is not enough, Mulhern said in a press conference at the American Pork Congress.

Because of the African Swine Fever threat to the U.S., an active program of eradicating the disease in the host country is imperative in addition to defensive programs within the U.S., he said.

In an attempt to help eradicate the disease in Haiti, the U.S. recently declared an animal health emergency, which freed funds for the eradication and made way for the U.S. to enter an agreement with Mexico and Canada.

Although the average farrow-to-finish slaughter hog producer will face cash losses in 1981, these losses will be somewhat less than (Continued on page 23)

stock in the U.S.—Final 1979, Preliminary 1980 and Projections for 1981" was compiled by USDA's Economics and Statistics Service for the Senate Agriculture Committee. The cost-price projections apply to ranchers for whom livestock sales comprise the majority of total business, according to Commodity News Service (CNS).

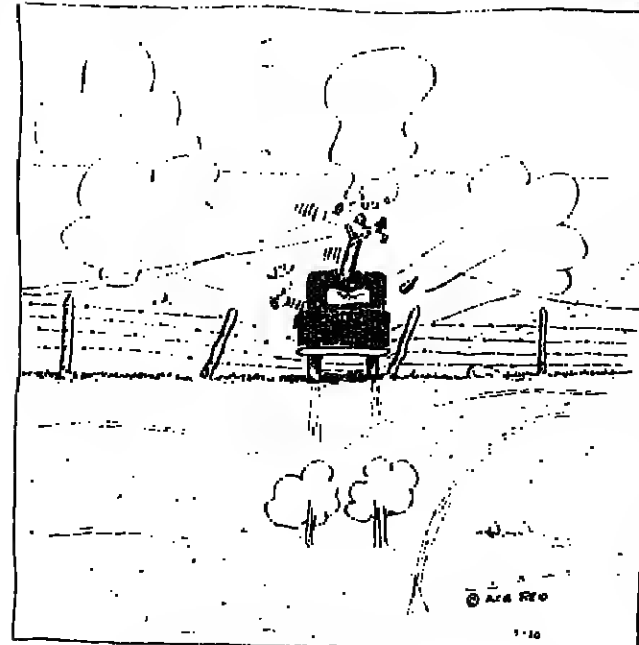
However, despite a generally healthy outlook for 1981, market prices and higher production costs may prevent hog producers and cattle feeders from covering their cash costs until mid-1981, the report said. It said these two segments of the U.S. livestock industry recorded cash losses in 1980.

Swine fever still posing a threat to U.S. hog industry

Although the average farrow-to-finish slaughter hog producer will face cash losses in 1981, these losses will be somewhat less than (Continued on page 23)

NEWSPAPER (priority handling)

NEWSPAPER (priority handling)



"Jake, I believe this is where we turn to the right!"

Soil protection prior to farm program benefits

There should be a system of "cross compliance" that would require a farmer to have a soil conservation plan before he was eligible for benefits from any farm program, Tom Barlow of the Natural Resources Defense Council said, according to CNS.

In testimony before the House of Representatives agriculture subcommittee on conservation, credit and rural development, Barlow said that only under such a system would all farmers start conservation practices. Current cost pressures punish those farmers who are practicing conservation, he said.

U.S. Agriculture Secretary John Block has said in the past that he does not support such cross compliance policies for farm programs.

Barlow said cost-sharing programs or tax incentives, two policies that have received widespread discussion as ways for the federal government to help fight erosion, were not enough to cope with the problem.

Reagan opposes EEC trade limit

The Reagan administration is vigorously opposing any European Economic Community attempts to impose trade barriers against soybean and corn gluten feed imports, according to Michael Collingart, deputy assistant secretary of state for international resource and food policy.

"Like soybeans, imports of corn gluten feed enter the EEC duty-free under the terms of a GATT Agreement," Collingart said, according to CNS.

However, pressure from EEC grain producers to limit non-grain feed ingredients is increasing as the EEC grain surplus continues to grow.

"The EEC is also concerned that U.S. ethanol production programs will generate rapidly increasing quantities of corn gluten, for which the EEC is currently the only market," he told the U.S. Feed Grains Council meeting.

Unicom News earlier reported EEC experts were discussing plans to overhaul the EEC starch industry and make it more competitive against increasing imports of starch products. UCN said talks were still in the preliminary stage, and a formal proposal should be ready to go to the EEC Council of Ministers by April.

UCN also reported the EEC starch industry is worried by the large increase in duty-free corn gluten feed. Imports have grown from about 600,000 tons in 1977 to almost two million tons in 1980.

Collingart also said there were a number of other trade issues under discussion with the EEC, relating to the U.S. maintaining access to foreign markets in the face of import restrictions and subsidies. These issues include wheat flour, citrus, cheese, poultry, meat, almonds and wine.

A bottle of drinking water kept cold in the refrigerator saves running the tap to get cold water.

Jack Boylo of the Environmental Policy Center said that to devise meaningful programs to protect soil, structural factors of agriculture that were causing erosion needed to be considered. He said the best policy to protect soil was one that assured a large number of small owner-operators, who had a stake in the viability of the future of their operations.

Doyle said if exports were shown to be a "disproportionate culprit" in soil erosion, a tax should be levied on imports of U.S. agricultural goods to fund conservation measures.

Neil Sampson of the National Association of Conservation Districts said he supported bills introduced by Rep. Ed Jones, (D-Tenn.) chairman of the subcommittee, that would increase federal funding of efforts and establish an endowment fund on non-federal money to be used for conservation.

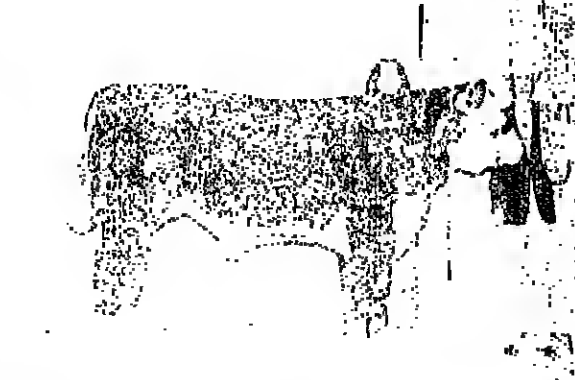
He added, though, that

time-tested practices to fight erosion such as rotating crops and not farming so intensively had to be reestablished. He said to be realized high demand and high production costs forced producers to farm their land as fully as possible, and suggested some government programs be devised that would relieve farmers of economic pressure.

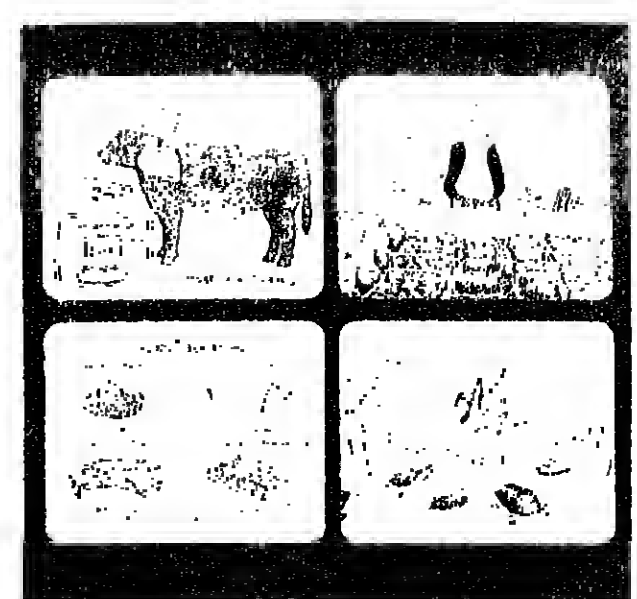
Jim Miller of the National Grange advocated volun-

tary cost-sharing between the government and farmers to pay for conservation since profit margins were too thin to allow farmers to invest the entire bill for practices.

Miller advocated federal technical assistance to aid and local governments which had programs tried to keep from being developed for agricultural uses, a position supported by Block.



WINNING HEREFORD—The grand champion Hereford steer at the Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo exhibited by Roydon Tom, Shanton, Texas. The 1282 lb. heavy weight steer was a Line One home-bred entry.



WISE BUY—Above are scenes from "Family Hero" an educational filmstrip from the Beef Industry Council of the Meat Board, designed to familiarize students with the basic cuts of beef and relate the source of each cut to its recommended cooking method. The filmstrip is part of an educational package, "Beef Buying Basics," which is being distributed to high schools across the country.

"Family Hero" included in Meat Board educational kit

Familiarizing students with basic beef cuts so they can shop more wisely in the future is the primary objective behind the newest educational kit released in schools by the Beef Industry Council of the National Live Stock and Meat Board.

The kit contains pertinent data about beef selection, preferred cooking methods, how to use labels to identify beef cuts, economization, beef storage, wholesomeness and product quality. Included in the "Beef Buying Basics" educational package is a 16-minute color filmstrip entitled "Family Hero," in which a teenager is given responsibility for purchasing a week's worth

of family meals within a budget; a 16-page, full-color student booklet containing information on beef buying, storing, preparing and serving; a full color wall chart; a 16-page teacher's guide; and a catalog for ordering additional materials.

According to Barbara Hicks, director of education at the Meat Board, "Beef Buying Basics" was reviewed and analyzed by educators and meat science experts prior to its release to schools.

"Today's school children are tomorrow's beef consumers," said Hicks.

House debates bill to fight soil erosion

A bill that would increase federal spending to combat soil erosion under a variety of programs has been introduced by Rep. Ed Jones (D-Tenn.) chairman of the House of Representatives agriculture subcommittee on conservation, credit and rural development, according to CNS.

Co-sponsored by Democratic and Republican leaders of the House Agriculture Committee, the bill would allow the U.S. agriculture secretary to designate areas for federal financial and technical aid to farmers, including long-term conservation contracts.

It would also permit him to create county conservation districts that would receive federal grants, create loans for farmers to carry out conservation measures and various other measures aimed at better efforts to protect agricultural land from soil erosion.

At subcommittee hearings on the proposal, Charles Benbrook, staff member of the Council on Environmental Quality, said federal money for soil conservation had to be targeted better to areas most likely to see serious yield reductions through erosion of topsoil.

He said federal administrators of soil conservation programs had to realize differences in soil qualities in various parts of the nation and tailor conservation programs for those differences.

Also discussed at the recent hearings were possible ways the federal

government can slow the pace of the conversion of U.S. prime farm land to non-agricultural uses, a trend that consumes up to three million acres per year.

Bob Gray, executive director of a recently completed national agricultural lands study, said he favored some loan or tax incentive to developers to encourage location of new plants and housing on land

that is not used for farming. He said federal programs have been a major culprit in the conversion of agricultural land by subsidizing industrial and housing development, and that a legislative signal needed to be given to federal agencies to consider the preservation of farms.

U.S. Agriculture Secretary John Block has said the effort to keep agricultural

land in production should be spearheaded by local and state agencies, with the federal government providing technical assistance, a view supported by Gray. A variety of state and local programs already exist.

Hourly productivity in the farm sector has run three times the rate of increase in non-farm industries during the past 10 years.

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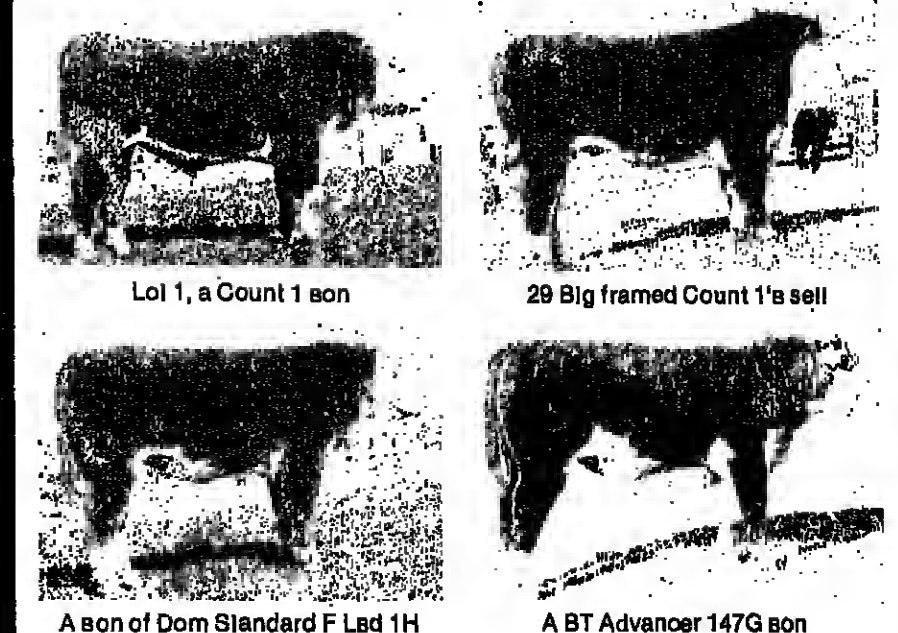
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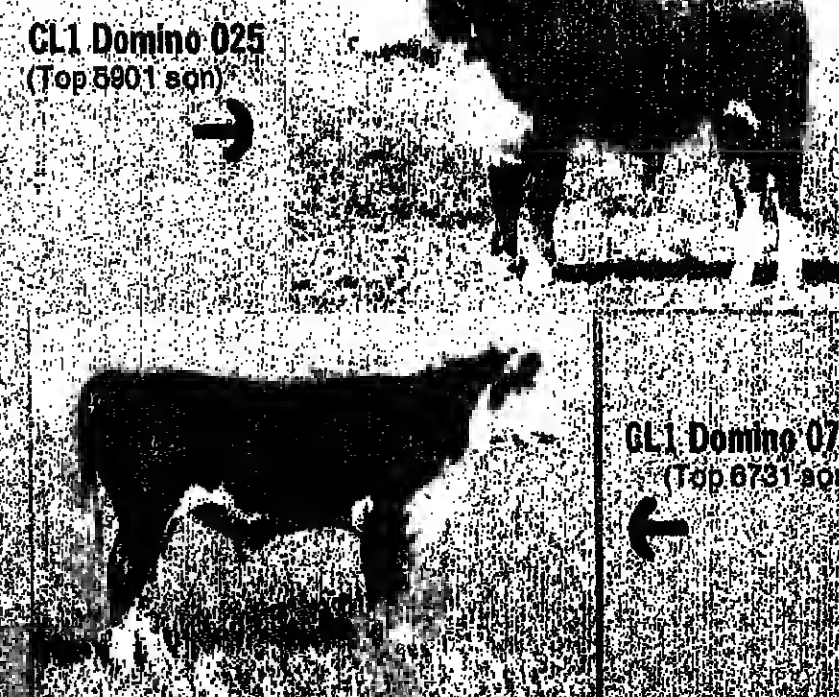


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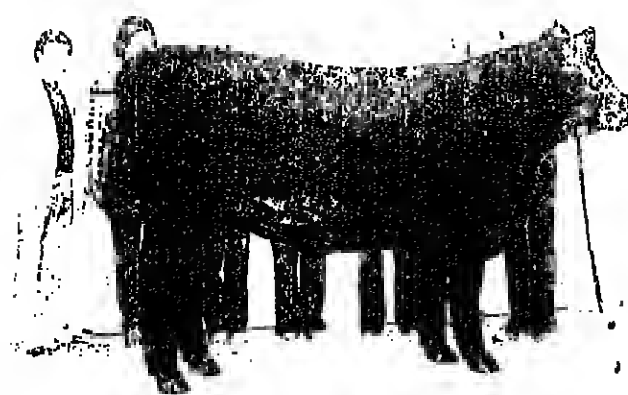
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Cooper Hereford Ranch claimed the 1981 National Western Stock Show's Hereford Championship in the fed breed division with an entry of six steers produced by Reich Bros., Willow Creek. The fed steers averaged 3.96 lbs. per day weighing out an average of 1,316 lbs. for a 794 lb. average carcass wt. and passing the graders at choice yield grade 3's.

COOPER HEREFORD RANCH



DUCHESS CROWNED—R&J Duchess 1239 was declared junior and grand champion Angus female of the Houston Stock Show. She's owned by R&J Ranch, Briggs, Texas; Picket Fence Farm, Greylake, Ill.; Empire Angus, Pleasant Hill, Mo.; and Gallagher's Angus Farm, Ghent, N.Y. Show judge was Gary Dameron, Lexington, Ill.

ECC establishes beef import quota

The European Community (EC) Commission will allow the importation of 3000 metric tons (MT) of high quality, fresh or frozen beef from the U.S. during the first quarter of 1981.

EC traders were able to apply for import licenses under the quota between Feb. 1-10.

"The Commission has delayed establishing the first quarter high quality beef allocation since the beginning of the year, in effect keeping U.S. beef off the EC market for more than

a month," the U.S. Meat Export Federation's European Director James H. Lennon said.

"The true reason for the quota delay is that the Commission chose to give priority to its vast amount of unfinished year-end business, as opposed to ratifying a new quota," Lennon said.

Under the first quarter 1981 EC beef quota, U.S. exporters will be able to ship products to Greece, the newest Community member state.

Water, energy management means money in the bank

Separating energy and water management in farm irrigation isn't possible, but correct management practices in those areas could put some money back into farmers' pockets, a University of Idaho agricultural engineer says.

"Energy management and water management can't be divorced, but proper water management would solve about half the irrigators' energy problems," said Dr. John Busch, associate professor of agricultural engineering.

"There are two main areas to consider," Busch said, "system planning, design and management and water management as related to energy use."

"Water management consists largely of applying

the right amount of water at the right time." This is determined partly by the soil and partly by the crop being grown. He said an added benefit of careful water application is a large reduction in soil erosion.

Among things to consider is irrigation pumping for maximum net benefit, rather than maximum production. He said sometimes a slightly lower yield of a crop may cost enough less to produce than a larger one that the profit may actually be greater. "Often that additional water application doesn't produce enough more crop to justify its cost," he said. Researchers are just beginning to study this aspect of farm irrigation efficiency.

System maintenance plays a large role in water and energy conservation, Busch said. "Leaky can cost several hundred dollars in a year, much more than preventative maintenance of the system."

Irrigators should check for worn-out sprinkler heads, worn out nozzles, leaking seals and faulty valves and replace them when they need to be.

Irrigators considering a new system or rehabilitation of an old system should take the time to consider many alternatives before selecting a plan, he said.

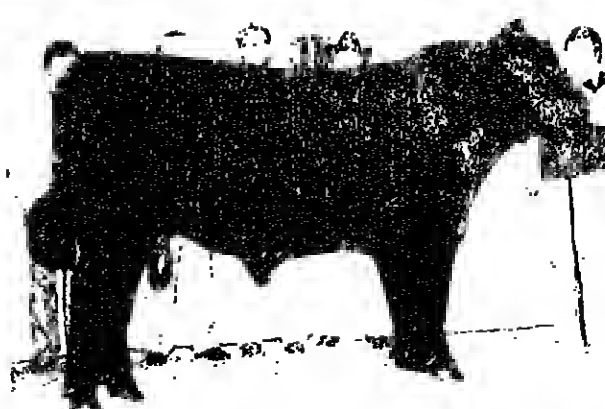
System design in terms of rapidly, energy efficiency and often convenience for its owner are, of course, important considerations. One piece of advice he

offered is "don't go to bed one day with the idea of buying an irrigation system by mail. Give the equipment supplier time to develop a package that will best meet your needs."

"Also plan to visit the electrical energy distributor for power cost estimates and projections. The power company can help."

He said irrigators need to know the lift, the flow, delivery and pressure and hours of operation so that an equipment package can be properly designed.

Another source of help to irrigators is the Cooperative Extension Service, he said. "County agents have reports and can help develop recommendations."



TOP ALTITUDE—E&W Altitude captured intermediate and grand champion Angus bull honors at the Houston Stock Show. He's owned by E&W Cattle Co., Greentown, Ind., and John and David Henderson, Carstairs, Alberta, Canada. Show judge was Gary Dameron, Lexington, Ill.

Crop commodity loans to increase, says Block

Loan rates will be raised for some 1981-crop commodities, U.S. Agriculture Secretary John Block said, but he would give no details about how long the loan rate increases might be or to what commodities they might apply, according to CNS.

At a recent press conference Block was asked if his

suggestions for higher commodity loan rates had been approved by the Office of Management and Budget. OMB Director David Stockman had come out against higher loan rates.

Block said only "We're still working on it." He said an announcement of 1981-crop loan rates would be made soon.

Ag experts' warning:

Consumers to pay more for food

American consumers, who now pay the lowest proportion of their disposable income for food of anybody in the world, will have to fork over a greater percentage in the future.

That's the warning message being beamed to consumers by agricultural experts as they tackle the "education" side of predictions that farm exports from the U.S. in the 1980s and 1990s will rise sharply and become an increasingly important contributor to the Gross National Product.

With the U.S.—the world's largest agricultural producer—in a strong position to capture the lion's share of increasing world demand for agricultural commodities and foodstuffs, agricultural economists and officials with the USDA are warning that this trade must not be fettered by cheap-food policies or short-sighted domestic political use.

One of the observers, agricultural economist Jim Plazeco of Oklahoma, says, "I think we are going to have to adjust to rising energy prices and rising exports of agricultural products to pay for it."

"Agriculture is one of the few competitive industries our country has...So we simply have to expand our agricultural exports because of petroleum and other imports."

Thomas R. Saylor, associate administrator of the USDA's Foreign Agriculture Service, warned of the likelihood of pressure from consumers and other groups to set up export controls to maintain cheaper domestic food prices.

"Such a policy would be shortsighted," he cautioned.

"I believe strongly that the only means of assuring long-term supply and reasonable food costs in the U.S. is to permit a substantial increase in the real price of agricultural commodities," he added.

"This means that we will have to tolerate increases in the proportion of income Americans spend for food, which—at least in one

Bluetongue vanishing in north

Results of a survey to detect cattle infected with bluetongue show that most northern and northeastern states are more than 99% free of the disease, a USDA veterinarian reports.

According to Jack Pitcher of USDA's Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, the importance of the survey results is that the U.S. must be able to guarantee that it is shipping bluetongue-free cattle in order to maintain its overseas export markets.

Bluetongue is a virus

disease of cattle, sheep, goats and wild ruminants. It is particularly damaging in sheep, where up to half of infected animals may die. In cattle and goats, the disease primarily affects the animals' reproductive ability, so is it not readily identifiable.

This, however, is the main reason that many countries refuse the entry of U.S. cattle. They fear that the disease will be spread from imported cattle to their bluetongue-free sheep flocks.

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Special lamb marketing task force meets to pinpoint industry ailments

In an unprecedented move to resolve some of the problems that have raised havoc with the lamb industry, a special lamb marketing task force met recently in Denver and made some positive recommendations.

The meeting emphasized the major problem is the bunching or crowding of the market with lambs at particular times of the year, and weight levels 65 lbs. dressed and down are perfectly acceptable. Weight ranges from 55 to 66 lbs. would be desirable if producers and feeders would consistently provide this type of product.

While slaughter facilities

are a problem, it is not as drastic as the uneven marketing pattern which causes market glut, which in turn results in a backup of supply. This evolves into a fat, wasty, overweight lamb problem that becomes a price disaster, even for the ideal lamb carcasses.

Domestic lamb producers should realize they are competing with the New Zealand product, but, there should be no great danger providing they supply the consumer with a lean handy weight product consistently and not vary the supply and the weights drastically throughout the year.

The task force agreed that more emphasis should be placed on the healthful aspects of lamb and that other benefits should be stressed from the standpoint of health and nutrition, particularly with hospitals, nursing and rest homes.

It was reported that 89% of lamb consumed is eaten in the metropolitan areas of over one million population and that the age range is 35 to 55. The group stressed the need to entice the young people to try lamb.

The task force cited the

tremendous increase in the use of fish, as well as poultry, particularly in the dine-out area. Chicken consumption has almost doubled in 20 years.

Other areas that the task force felt we should pursue more intensely is product development, especially in the food service area and also to keep greater awareness of lamb on the part of the military.

Among the problems cited in the meat industry generally were the costs of grading and inspection service; energy costs which have risen 25% in the last four or five years; transportation costs which can amount to as much as 14 cents a pound for freight for live animals and meat—

from producer to consumer; the extreme rise in the cost of labor for meat cutters, ranging from \$10 in Butte, Mont., to \$16 in other major areas such as Sacramento, Calif., Detroit, Mich., and Washington, D.C.

It was also emphasized by members of the task force that the industry should look to new ways of packaging and merchandising lamb, such as blovac,

cryovac and boxed lamb concept.

It was pointed out that New Zealand negotiates the price which will hold for six months or longer, and that is a great inducement to retailers.

It was suggested that the task force consider setting ideal weight limits at 110 to 115 lbs. for live lambs to allow some leeway for those who will overshoot the mark. Otherwise, everyone will be trying to hit the 120 to 125 lb. mark and, as a result, a number of those will far exceed the target.

It was suggested that an expert in the feeding business provide some information on the cost of putting on gain on lambs in the feedlot.

It was mentioned that weather is one factor which no one can control and which often upsets the marketing pattern by forcing lambs into feedlots.

It was estimated by a feeder that unlike most universities, he believes that the optimum gain costs are from 100 to 120 lbs. on lambs and not at the lighter weights, as many believe.

As an addition to this, one

of the feeders pointed out that if you have 100,000 lambs on feed, ready for slaughter, and you have killing facilities for 30,000 a week, you never get caught up in a particular marketing period.

Another problem facing the feeders in northern Colorado and elsewhere is the fact they will not be able to get money to continue in the business because of the high interest rate and the poor profit potential at the moment.

It was reportedly emphasized that if at all possible the industry should work on spreading out the marketing periods to avoid bunching up.

Another item was the fact that while some slaughterers can take up the slack in mind that when a slaughter facility goes out you lose sales and sub-sides, you lose distribution and you lose facilities.

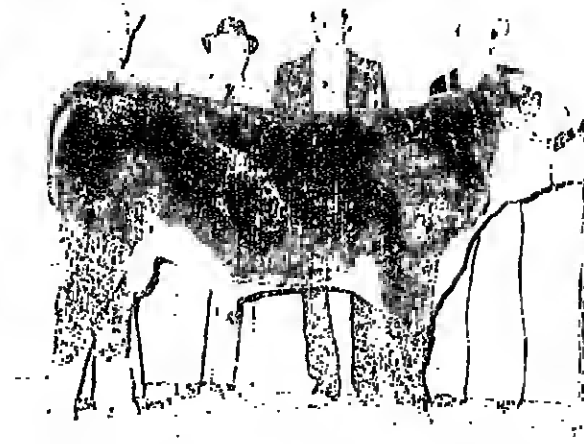
It was emphasized that producers and mixturary should consider working in their own areas to promote lamb to help encourage it's use in less populated areas

of the country which the Council's promotion does not reach. Increased use of product publicity and techniques was encouraged. The ASPC could assist in supplying recipes, posters and some suggested in-store shopping center and county and state fair promotions.

It was suggested that it

also continue to dispel the myth that lamb prices are too high. Many women say this, and yet they may not have current information on lamb prices.

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SUPERSTAR—LI Superstar, a winter calf sired by LI Domino 75901 and owned by Indian Mound Farm, New Harmony, Ind., claimed the grand champion Herford hull honor at the Houston Livestock Show.

Hog producer survey shows 31% plan production jump

Preliminary results from a National Pork Producers' Council producer survey shows that 31% of the producers surveyed intend to increase hog production, by at least 10% in 1981, while 15% intend to reduce production and 49% plan no change, Orville Sweet, executive NPCC vice president said, according to CNS.

Sweet presented the preliminary results of an ongoing survey of producers to delegates at the NPCC's annual meeting held at the American Pork Congress, in Kansas City. The survey also showed that 54% thought that government regulation was the number one problem, although only three percent contact legislators regularly and 77% seldom or never contact them, Sweet said. Also considered a major problem was consumer attitudes toward pork, with 42% considering it the biggest problem, he said.

Block warns Pork Congress budget cuts require sacrifice

U.S. President Ronald Reagan's plan for economic recovery will require sacrifices by all, but priority areas have been set for the USDA in which some increases in budget allocations were recommended, Secretary of Agriculture John Block said at the American Pork Congress banquet.

"I'm very pleased with the USDA budget," Block said, according to CNS.

Areas singled out in the USDA that are slated for budget increases are agricultural research, education and extension, along with the promotion and expansion of commercial exports, Block said.

"Agriculture needs to keep moving forward in the 1980s," he said.

Agriculture should "fare well" with the Reagan administration, Block said. One example, he said, is that Bill Brock, special U.S. trade representative, is considering adding a deputy to his staff who would specialize in agricultural trade. Brock currently has one deputy working in all trade areas, Block said.

Government regulations also need to be cut, he said. "There are regulations that aren't productive or useful, and should be done away with," Block said, "but we must be responsible."

proposed tax changes will help agriculture by giving it an incentive to expand and invest in new equipment.

Reagan's economic plan is the solution to the serious problem of inflation, he said. The plan calls for cutting back government growth and removing the government from the money market, thereby increasing the amount of money available for businesses and increasing productivity. As a result, the economy will expand, Block said.

Challenges for agriculture cannot be met without profitability in the industry, he said.



PRESIDENT — Jean Wickland, Castle Rock, Colo., is the newly elected president of the Mountain and Plains Texas Longhorn Assn. The MPTLA is a 250-member organization of Texas Longhorn breeders representing 35 states.

Pork Congress speakers:

Electronic markets best suited to hogs

Hogs are the species of livestock most likely to be marketed electronically in the future, according to speakers at the American Pork Congress.

"An electronic marketing system is more adaptable to feeder pigs than to any other species," Dick Jurgens of Interstate Producers Livestock Assn. said, according to CNS.

Jurgens said many feeder pigs are already sold "sight unseen" via tele-auctions. A lack of uniformity is not as much of a problem with feeder pigs, he said.

The current telephonic (tele-auctions) marketing is a mid-step from the traditional auction to electronic, computerized marketing, he said.

Furthermore, Jurgens said other variables in feeder pigs can be eliminated through brooding to make them even more able to be traded via computers. Additional technological advances will also aid the process, he said.

Another speaker, E. Dean Baldwin of Ohio State University, said electronic

marketing of slaughter hogs is already technologically feasible. He discussed the Hogs Accelerated Marketing System (HAMS), a computerized slaughter hog project, being tested by Ohio State University and Producers Livestock Assn. in Ohio.

Electronic marketing of slaughter hogs combines the competition of the traditional auction, by giving many packers the opportunity to bid, and the savings of direct marketing, because the hogs are left on the farm until sold, Baldwin said.

The HAMS project began in November 1980, and will probably continue through November of this year, he said. The project recently was awarded an additional \$242,600 in matching funds from the USDA to extend the test, which would have ended this spring, and to expand the program into more states. It currently includes producers mostly in Ohio and packers in several eastern states.

From Nov. 10, 1980 to Feb. 20, 1981, a total of

92,420 hogs were sold on the system, Baldwin said. There was an average of 6161 hogs per week and 7.2 buyers per day. One of the goals of expanding the project is to increase the volume to make the system more economical, he said. He said the HAMS project has only about one-third of the volume needed, but added that he believes volume will increase.

Baldwin said farmers have been the most reluctant group to use the system at this point, even when they have a computer terminal on their property.

"I still don't know if farmers will step forward and use it," he said.

"We have proven that electronic marketing will work," Baldwin said. "I think it will work for feeder pigs, too," he added.

Roland Poul, a Missouri hog producer and dealer, also predicted changes in the future of slaughter hog and feeder pig marketing. He said markets will have to grow—increase in volume—and feeder pigs will probably be sold over the

telephone or via computer. Feeder pig dealers, who now take possession of pigs, will become brokers or buying agents for feeders, Poul predicted. He said that move will be one of economics, because of high insurance premiums required for those taking possession of the animals.

Poul said production of feeder pigs, now largely done in grain-deliver areas, will have to change to compete with feeder pig production in the major feeding areas because of high transportation costs.

Sweden developing non-petroleum fuel

Sweden plans to solve its dependence on imported petroleum during the next 20 years by developing non-petroleum sources of energy, including anhydrous alcohol made from coarse grains, sugarbeets and potatoes. The Swedish Energy Commission estimates that 30% of its gasoline and 30% of its diesel fuel requirements can be filled by non-petroleum fuels by the year 2000.



EXECUTIVE — Dennis R. Braddock, has been named executive counsel in livestock marketing. He is a Washington Government Affairs Office. Prior to joining LMA, Braddock was legislative assistant to Rep. Sam B. Hall, Jr., (D-Texas). He drafted and reviewed legislation on a variety of issues, and was heavily involved with Congressional efforts to reform the federal criminal code.

Equation predicts pound production

A new mathematical equation has been adopted by the pork-producing industry to predict the days in a hog's life span needed to produce 86 lbs. of red meat.

Everett Martin, professor of animal sciences at Washington State University, pointed out that an ideal carcass has a maximum amount of muscle or red meat, a minimum amount of bone and waste fat and enough marbling, or intramuscular fat, to insure eating quality consistent with consumer desire.

For practical purposes, Martin noted, age units can be translated to days, and 86 lbs. of muscle represent a amount in a desirable pork carcass.

"Find ways to identify and document birthdays," he said. "Often this one piece of data is missing, limiting the meaningfulness of swine data."

Martin believes that the percent muscle evaluation scheme is superior to the traditional pork grading standards used by the USDA to evaluate pork carcasses merit. The USDA method is based on expected lean-cut yield.

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With agriculture now the third most hazardous occupation, following mining and construction, farm communities around the nation are rallying around the slogan "Be Careful, We Love You."

The phrase was coined by a woman whose husband died when his arm became entangled in a grain combine. His wife was attending a safety class and his children, not knowing how to help him, watched as he bled to death.

As with most workplaces, farms and ranches have occupational health and safety hazards; not just tractors turning over and exposure to toxic chemicals, but a myriad of lesser-known accidents and health disorders that are causing rural communities to rally around the cause of agricultural health and safety.

In Frederick County, Md., last summer 300 residents injured two local farmers, who had recently had amputations in farm machinery accidents, to stage a week of farm safety demonstrations. The residents then challenged other counties in the state to hold similar programs, and seven counties did so immediately.

"People are becoming more concerned about their friends and neighbors being involved in farm accidents," said Gary Smith, an agricultural safety specialist for the Maryland Cooperative Extension Service.

Farm implement dealers are particularly active in such programs and have even assumed a regulatory role in some cases. For

instance, when a Colorado farmer lost a finger in a combine last year, the local John Deere dealership in Fort Lupton stopped selling the combine. Other farmers in the community had lost parts of their hands and arms in similar machines, attributable, some said, to the fact that there is no off switch on the machine itself; the tractor it is attached to must be shut down in order to stop the rotation of moving parts on the picker.

In many states, farmers' wives and children are taking courses in methods of disentangling people from machinery. The first step, of course, is to turn off the machine; then to turn off the diesel fuel.

"Women are the health care workers on the farm," said Margo Rosenkranz, of the Institute of Rural Environmental Health at Colorado State University, "so they are the target for much of the current health care information."

Information sheets published by the agricultural college and providing detailed data on the trials may be obtained at local county extension offices or from Dr. Jensen at the agricultural colleges, UNR.

An accident last year in Beaver Creek, Utah, is a prime example. A farmer went into the combine in his barn, where he was overcome with methane gas. His two sons saw him and while one called the sheriff, the other was overcome with the gas he tried to rescue his father. The sheriff went into the pit also, where he died along with the father and son. Similar tragedies have recently occurred in Iowa and Pennsylvania when farmers and their rescuers became overcome with silage gas in and around a newly filled silo.

Chemicals have always been a hazard on farms, but since the banning of DDT, health problems related to pesticide exposure have increased. According to Dol Sandfort, also of the Institute of Rural Environmental Health, "the old DDT was an environmental problem but it didn't cause the immediate physical problems to the worker that the new pesticides do." The organo phosphate pesticides are absorbed easily through the skin and contact can be fatal.

"The main problem," says Sandfort, "is that farmers and workers use these chemicals regularly; they get accustomed to using them and they tend to get careless."

Small-scale ethanol production is a new concern of farm safety experts. Billy Schneider, a well-known figure in the American Agriculture Movement which organized farmers to drive their tractors to Washington, was killed last year at his family's new gasohol plant near Springfield, Colo. The patented for equipment accidents and explosions exists with ethanol, according to Sandfort. If enough of the ethanol vapor is exposed to air it can be ignited very easily.

"A classic danger," said Sandfort, "is caused by people smoking cigarettes near an ethanol still. It's the same process as making moonshine, so people think they can be casual about it."

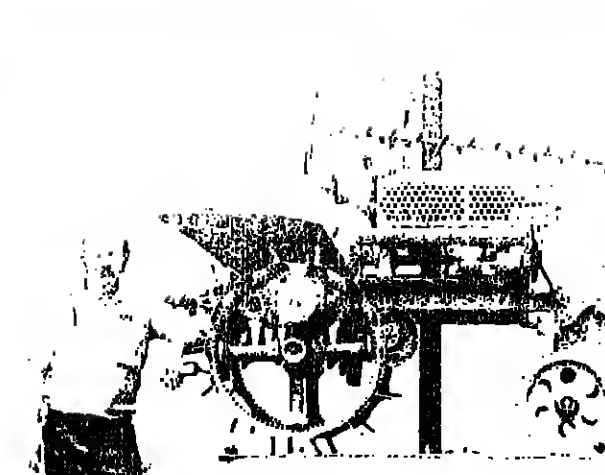
A controversial medical problem associated with agriculture is farmer's lung. Nearly one-third of all agricultural workers suffer from work-related respiratory illnesses, according to Dr. Kelley Bonham of the Iowa University Institute of Agricultural Medicine. The illnesses range from respiratory allergies to chronic

emphysema, and it is not known how many of these problems might be caused by the spores of various molds and other components present in grain dust.

While much of the work farm health and safety has been done in the past by the cooperative extension services of the USDA, there is a trend toward non-governmental education programs. One reason, says Smith of Maryland, is that "so many regulatory agencies are telling farmers conflicting things."

Mayfield now has a non-profit Agricultural Safety and Health Corp., which sponsors rural education programs. Colorado's Institute of Rural Environmental Health also has a non-governmental program which provides consulting services to farmers who want to lessen the occupational hazards on their farms. In addition, it assists in providing training programs for rural health professionals.

"The next decade will bring an increased understanding among rural health care workers of the unique health problems of people working in agriculture," said Margo Rosenkranz.



SPARE PART ART—The art world may not yet recognize Willie Frank as an up-and-coming sculptor, but the folks in Grand Junction, Iowa, do. Frank spent a good share of his spare time last winter "sculpting." The material he chose is somewhat unfamiliar to most artists, but it's what Frank knows best—farm machinery parts. Frank, a service foreman at Rueter & Zenor Implement Co., spends most of his time preparing tractors and combines for fieldwork.

Texas A&M Cattle Short Course

Many problems are facing today's ranchers, who must study options and plan management changes to cope with rising production costs.

An attempt will be made during the upcoming range action program of the Beef Cattle Short Course, April 6-7 at Texas A&M University, to explore options which ranchers have available to deal with range management problems, says Dr. Bob J. Ragdale, range specialist with the Texas Agricultural Extension Service, Texas A&M University System.

Dr. Charles Scifres, researcher with the Texas Agricultural Experiment Station and professor in Texas A&M's Department of Range Science, will discuss the use of prescribed fire for brush control in the range program of the Beef Cattle Short Course. Wayne Hamilton, a lecturer and researcher in the department of range science, will discuss the integration of fire into forage systems while Tom Oldham, a graduate research associate with the department of range science and Wilder Wildlife Foundation, will look at prescribed fire and its effect on the Gulf Coast earlick.

Dr. Larry White, range specialist with the extension service at Uvalde, Texas, will discuss supplementation needs of livestock and relate those to new techniques being explored for better estimates of forage quality.

The Beef Cattle Short Course is part of the 1981 Texas Animal Agriculture Conference. More information, along with schedules and registration forms, may be obtained from Texas county extension offices.



AWARD PRESENTATION—Special honoree of the 1981 Fort Worth ROM Hereford Show was Bryant Edwards, Henrietta, Texas. Several presentations were made to Edwards by fellow Texans for his dedicated service to the Hereford breed. Presenting special gifts, are Texas Hereford Association president, Johnny Summerour (left), Dalhart; American Hereford Auxiliary first vice president, Mrs. George Knox, Midland; ROM Show honoree, Bryant Edwards, Henrietta; and American Hereford Association director, James Grote, Llano.

AFBF Rural Health Conference

A three-day conference to tackle the challenges of assuring an adequate health care system in rural America is scheduled in Chicago, April 21-23.

Sponsored by the American Farm Bureau Federation, the conference will feature prominent and authoritative speakers from the fields of medicine, education and health-care administration in nontechnical presentations and workshops aimed at attracting the widest possible audience. All sessions will be in the Conrad Hilton Hotel in Chicago's downtown loop.

Participation in all sessions of the conference is not restricted, but advance reservations are recommended. Full details are available from Ken Cheatham, American Farm Bureau Federation, 225 Touhy Ave., Park Ridge, Ill. 60068; phone 312/890-5762.

National Pork Producers Council

Carolyn Lewis has been named by the National Pork Producers Council as director of consumer affairs. Lewis fills a position left vacant by the resignation of Ann Norman.

In her new position, Lewis will be responsible for coordinating the council's consumer education program, working with food editors and home economics professionals.

National Extension Advisory Board

Individuals who use agricultural research and extension programs are invited to express their views on priorities for these programs at a National Agricultural Research and Extension Users Advisory Board meeting in College Station, Texas, April 6-8.

The public forum will be on April 6, from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m., in the Rudder Center, 4th floor, Texas A&M University campus.

If you wish to speak at the forum, send your name, address, telephone number, organization represented (if any) and a brief description of the issues you plan to address to: David Dyer, Public Participation Officer, Science and Education Administration, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, D.C. 20250; or call 202/447-6211.

American Sheep Producers Council

The American Sheep Producers Council has named William J. Blinke director of merchandising, according to an announcement made by Richard D. Biglin, ASPC executive director.

Blinke, 51, will be responsible for developing and implementing promotional programs to increase consumption of fresh American lamb. In that capacity, he will work with the council's Denver staff and supervises and coordinates the activities of the regional lamb merchandising managers and also work with the regional food service manager.

One of Blinke's first projects will be to launch a new lamb merchandising and promotion in the southwestern U.S., an area which has attracted many lamb consumers from the northeast.

American Polled Hereford Assn.

Polled Hereford breeders Bill Wolfe of Wallawa, Ore., and Bill Woolston of Sheridan, Wyo., have been elected chairman and vice chairman, respectively, of the board of directors of the American Polled Hereford Assn. (APHA).

Their election occurred during the 68th National Polled Hereford Convention, held in Denver, Colo. New directors assuming four-year terms on the board are Charles Boyd, Mays Lick, Ky.; Dan McFarland, Fredericksburg, Iowa; and J.R. McLane, Daleville, Ala.



JUNIOR ANGUS OFFICERS—1981 officers of the Texas Junior Angus Assn. were elected at the recent junior association banquet in Ft. Worth. They are, left to right: president Ty Williams, Lackney; first vice president Alford Echols, Cooper; second vice president Glenda Holt, Navasota; reporter Cindy Kelm, Brenham; and secretary-treasurer Tina McKinnan, Bedford.

Nebraska Beef Cook-off

Ever wonder what Julia Child or Moris Ellis would think of your favorite beef dish? You can find out, say Nebraska CowBellos.

Each year the National Beef Cook-off gives 50 contestants an opportunity to have a panel of famous chefs, food writers and beef experts evaluate their culinary skill with beef.

To enter the national contest, a cook must first win his or her state contest. Depending on where a person lives in the state, aspiring cooks can enter a local contest or send their recipe directly to the state cook-off committee to use if they can qualify, Stewart said.

Any interested cook with a non-professional status over 18 years old should write for information and entry forms to: Nebraska Beef Cook-off, Mrs. Greta Stewart, Annear Rd., O'Neill, NE 68763, 402/336-8007.

Local contests are scheduled for April 11 in Broken Bow and April 24 in O'Neill.

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HIRED—Dr. Cheryl Nelson, D.V.M., has been hired as the resident veterinarian for Genetic Engineering, Inc. The Denver, Colo. based company is engaged in custom semen collection and non-surgical embryo transfer in the cattle industry.

Angus board favors revised grade plan

The American Angus Assn. board of directors has gone on record in support of the proposed USDA beef carcass grading changes that were adopted by members of the National Cattlemen's Assn. (NCA) at their recent convention in Phoenix, reports Myron Woolver, president of the American Angus Assn.

"The proposed guidelines for revising the USDA beef carcass grading standards should not measurably affect the quality of beef that is graded USDA choice," said Myron Woolver. At the same time the board believes that the grade revisions will help achieve the following goals:

- Decrease production costs to the entire beef industry.
- Produce a leaner product that will maintain the superior position of beef in the red meat industry.
- The action supporting the grade revisions was taken in a formal resolution adopted by the Angus Assn. board of directors at their regular business meeting at the 1981 convention.

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New Mexican caution: scabies mite still lurks

Recent outbreaks of scabies are reminders to New Mexico livestock owners that this longtime southwest cattle disease hasn't been "dipped" out of sight. By mid-winter three counties have herds with scabies, and since winter is the most likely period for high incidence of this disease, the count of counties may climb.

To avoid the quarantine of your herd because of scabies, the cost of dipping and the loss of weight plus additional longer feeding time, New Mexico Secretary of Agriculture Bill Stephens recommends livestock owners learn more about scab.

Scab or scabies is caused by a microscopic mite. This mite punctures the skin of cattle and feeds on the body fluids released from the wound. Those fluids ooze from the bites, dry, become mixed with sloughed skin and form scabs. Hence, the name, "scabius" or "scab."

As the mites increase in number, the animal's hair

falls out, the lesions spread and the body becomes encrusted with thick, rough crusts. Cattle tormented with scab spend hours licking, switching, twisting, rubbing against fences and buildings. In short, they seek any relief from the itching disease.

Scabies mites are contagious and spread by physical contact, multiplying rapidly. One infected animal in a pen can infect the entire herd within a matter of days. Spread is slower in range cattle but anything that brings cattle together increases the infestation. Scabies can spread to inanimate objects such as fence posts, sides of buildings and trucks. The mites can live as long as a couple of days on those objects if climatic conditions are right.

Since scabies is a contagious livestock disease, animals must be treated by prescribed state and federal regulations.

The only official way to kill the mites is pesticide

treatment, through a dip or spray method that covers the entire animal in pesticide. Dipping must be supervised by state and federal personnel. Supervising much of the dipping of infected herds in New Mexico is Dr. Robert Pyles, state veterinarian. He says the cost of dipping animals is running about fifty cents a head for adults and yearlings. There is no charge for calves.

Pyles says the dipping is done twice, the second time, 10 to 14 days after the first dip. So, livestock owners pay fifty cents a head each time the animals are dipped.

Just paying for the dipping isn't the only cost to owners whose livestock has scabies. Stephens says the loss of hide value because of scabies, weight loss and additional feeding time have to be considered as a cost. He also says a delay in movement because a herd is quarantined may interrupt a cattleman's plans for

changing grazing or meeting contract requirements.

"When you consider the cost of scabies, it is important that every livestock owner recognize the symptoms of this disease, watch for cattle that exhibit the symptoms and contact a veterinarian if you are concerned about cattle's behavior or actions," Stephens said. He also recommends that livestock owners, buyers and feedlot operators obtain papers on livestock they purchase and be sure they don't buy cattle from quarantined or suspected scabies areas. "Look at the cattle, ask questions. Don't bring scab into your herd," he said. "It costs too much."

About 2% of all farms and ranches account for 40% of all farm production and 18% of total net farm and ranch income, says the U.S.D.A.



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THE DUCHESS—R&J Ranch, Briggs, Texas, exhibited this grand champion Angus heifer at the 1981 Fort Worth Stock Show. The heifer, earlier named junior champion of the show, is R&J Duchess 1230. The show was judged by Glen Klippenstein, Maysville, Mo.

Browse-ing around:

Livestock eat shrubs, but need more

It's common knowledge that browse—the brushy, twiggy perennial plants native to a region—are a favorite and even necessary food source for native big game animals, such as deer and antelope. What hasn't been known is the use or value, if any, of native North Dakota browse plants as feed for domestic animals, particularly cattle and sheep.

In a year when drought has made feed of any kind a scarce and expensive item, results of a joint project between the departments of botany and animal science at North Dakota State University are of particular interest.

Eleven shrubs, western snowberry, serviceberry, lead plant, woods rose, prairie wild rose, buffalo-herry, skunk bush, choke-cherry, sundbar willow, winter fat and big sage-

brush were analyzed for their nutrient content around the year. Samples were taken from the Sand Hills in southeastern North Dakota and the Badlands in southwestern North Dakota. Dr. William T. Barker of the botany department supervised the collections, and Dr. Duane Erickson of animal science the analyses.

Cattle and sheep will eat some shrub material the year around. As might be suspected, the greatest value of browse is in the spring, when the plants are actively growing. Approximate digestibilities of browse as determined by laboratory procedures compare in value to good quality roughage in the spring and low quality roughage in the fall.

Phosphorus tended to be low, from .12 to .2%, but

higher in the Sand Hills area than in the Badlands. While the leaves were the most nutritious and best liked, the stems and twigs were browsed the year around, and the protein in the winter twigs might be as high as it is because, unlike grasses and perennial broadleaved plants (forbs), the roots are not the primary storage place for nutrients during the dormant period.

Protein and dry matter digestibility were significantly higher in choke-cherry, western snowberry and serviceberry from the Badlands.

During the growing season the protein contents in buffalo-berry, chokecherry, serviceberry, woods and prairie wild rose and lead plant, leaves and twigs combined, were high enough to meet maintenance requirements of sheep and cattle.

Foreign markets: future growth for ag products

The growth market for U.S. agricultural products is in the export area in the years ahead, not in the domestic arena, according to a Texas A&M University agricultural economist.

Dr. Michael Cook, assistant professor of agricultural economics with the Texas Agricultural Experiment Station, said, "Many foreign countries are becoming increasingly dependent on food supplies, and U.S. producers are becoming increasingly dependent on export markets." Cook

made his comments at the 20th Texas Farm and Ranch Credit Conference in Commercial Bankers at Texas A&M sponsored by the Texas Agricultural Extension Service and the Experiment Station.

Cook noted that agricultural exports are increasing sharply to developing and centrally planned countries. While this is good, he cautioned that these areas are also "the most politically and economically volatile, thereby increasing market risk."

Cook said that the dollar value of U.S. agriculture imports increased from \$6.9 billion in 1970 to \$10.5 billion last year.

The economist predicted about a 3% increase in overall demand for food and fiber products in the next few years compared to a five to seven percent increase in export demand. He added that the tremendous foreign expansion is due in part to many foreign countries moving from a grain diet to one with more animal protein.

"All this means that the U.S. agricultural sector will be operating much closer to full capacity in the years ahead," said Cook. "Thus, there will be higher risks involved in marketing, and more attention will have to be devoted to marketing."

With this increased agricultural production and mounting limitations of such resources as energy, credit and land, increased quality of management will be the key to future growth in agriculture, emphasized Cook.

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EMBRYOLOGIST—Genetic Engineering, Inc., a new company engaging in semen collection and non-surgical embryo transfer, has added embryologist Larry Nelson to its staff. Nelson, who holds a master's degree in reproductive physiology, is in charge of non-surgical embryo transfer in cattle at the Denver, Colo. company.

Whole fruits best to plant winterfat

Preliminary results indicate that the best way to establish winterfat, a shrub that provides desirable browse for cattle and wildlife, is to broadcast whole fruits, rather than threshed seeds.

Some controversy exists over the best way to get winterfat established in areas disturbed by strip mining. The hairy fruits of winterfat germinate slower and are much more bulky than the threshed seed. The bulky fruits can't usually be used in mechanical planting equipment. For these reasons, many unsuccessful plantings have been made with threshed seed.

Although germination from fruits is somewhat slower, our studies show about seven times more seedlings established when whole fruits were used," says USDA range scientist, D. Terrance Booth, whose research has defined important functions of winterfat fruits and explained why using threshed seed has not given good results.

"Our emphasis is on plant establishment, and not just germination of the seed," he said.



CAPTURING TITLES—The 4-H team representing Colorado at the 1980 American Royal 4-H Livestock Judging Contest held in Kennes City, Mo., took top honors with 2016 points, placing first in oral reasons and beef cattle, and fourth in sheep. Pictured are Eldon Fisher (left), youth extension agent from Wray; Clay Leonard, Wray; Sue Toner, Wray; Rex Buck, Eckley; and Wmrd Doring, coach, Yule. Not pictured but a member of the team is Neel Saxton, Yums.

Management key to scour defeat

Changing calving seasons, vaccination, special handling of ill calves and clean calving areas will do a lot to reduce "the scourge of the livestock industry since man domesticated farm animals," according to an assistant professor in the Washington, Oregon and Idaho regional veterinary medicine program.

Dr. Marie Bulgin, a clinical pathologist at the University of Idaho's Caine Veterinary Teaching Center at Caldwell, said scours or neonatal diarrhea costs the cattle industry about \$250 million annually, and that proper management of the calf when it is most vulnerable could reduce the occurrence of scours, which has a variety of causes.

"What is even more shocking is that the problem appears to be growing worse as livestock raising becomes more intensified," said Bulgin.

The USDA estimates that scours results in the death of one out of every four calves. Idaho produced about 730,000 calves in 1976.

"Whatever you can do to improve the calf's immunity and to reduce the number of disease causes will aid in preventing the disease," she added. "When planning calving facilities, breeding times and other activities, keep those two factors in mind and chances are you will be more successful in preventing most of your scours problems."

Calves are born with a predisposition for the disease, since they are born without the globulin-proteins or antibodies which protect them from disease that most baby animals, including humans, are born with, she said.

These globulin-proteins or antibodies are contained in the colostrum from the calf's mother, but only in the first 24 hours of life is the calf able to absorb them from the intestines into the bloodstream.

"It has also been shown that stressed calves, such as calves that must be pulled or calves which have ears and feet frozen, are not able to absorb antibodies for as long a period as a normal calf," Bulgin said.

The calves are normally born January to March when animals are most concentrated and when disease agents are most likely to build up, Bulgin said. Among the agents

causing scours in beef calves are viruses, bacteria and protozoans.

Vaccination can control most of the scours in the beef industry.

"It is possible to vaccinate the same cow against many of these specific viruses, thus enabling her to produce specific antibodies to put in her colostrum against those disease agents," said Bulgin. "Furthermore, vaccination of the dam (female parent) reduces the number of these same agents in the adults who do carry them, although they aren't showing any signs of disease."

Antibiotics, she added, don't have an effect on the viruses or protozoans.

Ranchers sustaining severe losses to the disease may want to change their calving season or calving facilities, while others may just want to have a thorough cleaning of their calving areas, said Bulgin.

"Disease agents tend to build up in old shelters, barns and long sheds which have been in use for years and never cleaned properly," she added.

During the calving season, a good method to cut down the likelihood of the calves picking up scours is to reduce the number of cows per pen, keeping the calving areas as dry as possible, hauling in bedding every few days to provide dry, clean areas.

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Future livestock demand hinges on '81 inflation, interest rates and corn

Inflation, interest rates and an uncertain corn outlook will weigh on livestock demand in 1981, said Ruby Gallat, chief economist, Heindol Commodities.

Speaking at the American Pork Congress at Heindol's seventh annual outlook seminar, Gallat said commodities were the first industry to be affected by high interest, reports CNS.

In an attempt to cut the budget deficit and reduce inflation President Reagan is employing high interest rates to discourage demand, Gallat said. Carry-over incentive for commodities has been removed and a

shift toward stock liquidation has resulted, he said. Gallat said there is a reluctance to put meat into frozen storage unless it can be hedged, and this continuing pattern will weaken livestock demand.

Expectations of a continued tight corn supply based on precipitation uncertainty will influence poultry, hog and cattle cuthacks, Gallat said.

Reagan's budgetary cut proposals will also be an inhibiting demand factor, he said.

"Agricultural cutbacks will be felt in streamlining the food stamp program... and the ultimate outcome

will be some reduction of demand," Gallat said.

The inflation rate cannot fall if retailers do not reduce prices in conjunction with the recent substantial declines in cash hog prices, Gallat said. He advised producers to approach the Pork Council and ask the Food Marketing Institute to deal with retailers through this method.

There may be a "silver lining" behind these economic pressures, Gallat said. If consumers have less money to spend, they tend to obtain from expensive traveling and capital spending and spend more on food, he said.



MONTANA LEADERS—The Montana Hereford Assn.'s annual meeting was held in Miles City recently and following the business session part of the convention officers and directors of the MHA met for this picture. They are, David Largent (left), Willall, president of the American Hereford Assn.; Joanne Beery, Vida, secretary; Bill Ammen, Turner, vice president; and Lorrie Peterson, Livingston, president; directors, Loren Brooks (standing left), Hardin; Henry Visser, Manhattan; Vernon Wilson, Sheridan; Richard Thomas, Goldcreek; Paul Douglas, Wibaux; Don Bailey, Forsyth; and Gery Helm, Miles City.

Texas cattlemen aim for statewide checkoff

Leaders of four organizations representing cattlemen in Texas have agreed to work toward a voluntary 25-cent checkoff program in that state to support national beef marketing development efforts.

The agreement was reached at a meeting in Irving, Texas, called by the Beef Industry Council of the National Live Stock and Meat Board. In attendance were the chief elected officers of the Texas and Southwestern Cattle Raisers Assn.; Texas Cattle Feeders Assn.; Texas Farm Bureau; and Independent Cattlemen's Assn.

However, the agreement is subject to approval by the board of directors of each organization.

Under the proposed plan, 25 cents will be collected for each head of cattle sold

to a packer or through a livestock market. The collection will be voluntary. Funds will then be remitted entirely to the Beef Industry Council of the Meat Board for use in national programs of research, education, information and promotion.

"There is another positive development in the beef industry's push to protect and expand its market," said James Mullins, chairman of the Beef Industry Council.

"Texas, the number-one state in cattle numbers, joins 19 other major beef-producing states in working toward a increased check-off. The beef industry needs this kind of commitment if we are going to meet the competitive challenges we will face in the 1980's," he said.



GRAND CHAMPION—Judge Howard Hillman, Bon View Angus Farm, Canyon, S.D., selected Brinks Hopi 599K (Signal) as the grand champion bull at the International Brangus Show in Houston, Texas. The March 1978 son of Brinks Chief 606/2 (Hopi) won the senior champion bull award and two-year-old bull class.

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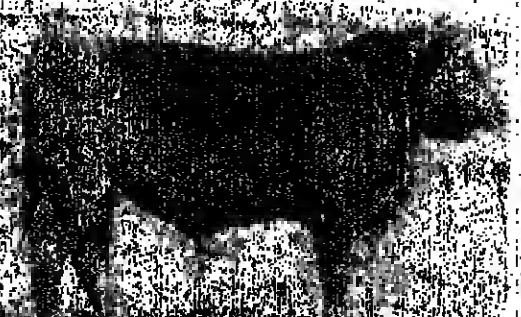
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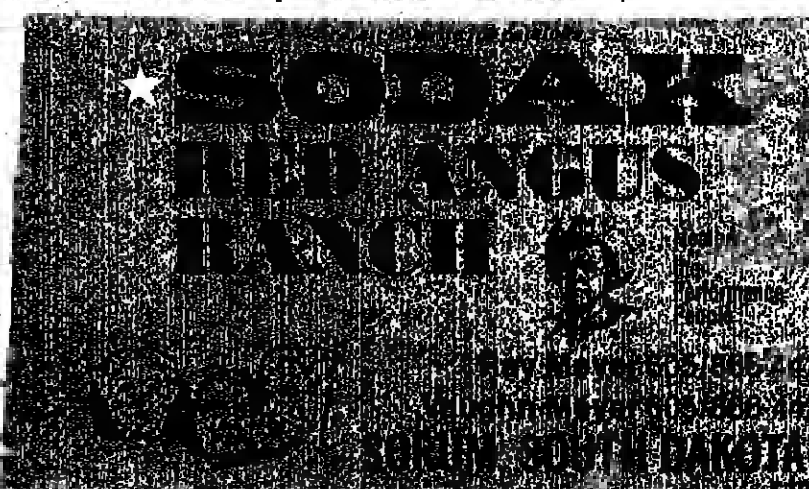
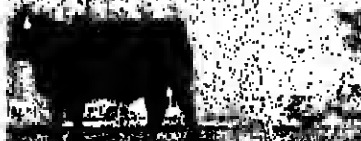
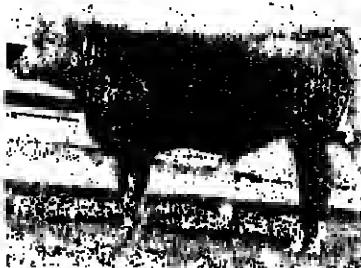
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Economist says number too high; dismal profit prospect for feeders

Even though fed cattle prices should improve some this spring, cattle feeders probably will still continue to upsize in the red, according to a Kansas State University agricultural economist.

"Break-even prices for cattle feeders during the first quarter of 1981 will probably range between \$73 and \$75 cwt., and in the April-June period they could well be in the \$72-to-\$74 range," Orlan C. Grunwald, agricultural economist for the Kansas Cooperative Extension Service told those attending the 68th annual cattlemen's day.

"This compares with fed steer prices averaging around \$66 in the first quarter and \$72 cwt. in the second quarter of this year," he added.

During 1980, Kansas cattle feeders lost about \$50 a head on each steer they finished, even though choice steer prices averaged near \$67 cwt., the economist observed. Record high interest rates, record total meat supplies, skyrocketing feed costs and declining real consumer incomes all added to cattlemen's woes.

"Although beef supplies have been historically low the past couple of years, cattle feeders have suffered nearly 18 months of losses, starting in mid-1979," Grunwald said. "Most of their troubles have resulted from factors other than beef supplies. These were the weak economic situation, high feeding costs and heavy competition from other meats, especially poultry."

Large numbers of heavy-weight yield grades 4 and 5 cattle moved to market in December and January and depressed prices then. But, the economist said, it is apparent that excellent gains and low prices will encourage feeders to continue to overfinish cattle as they hold them longer than necessary in hopes of higher prices. Even though feeders will place fewer animals on feed, they will hold them longer, so the industry will probably not become current in marketing anytime soon.

"Relatively large total meat supplies, continued abundance of overfed cattle in some areas, a sluggish general economy, declining consumer purchasing power and a wide farm-to-retail meat price spread will keep downward pressure on cattle prices through much of this year," he said.

Grunwald said he expects choice steer prices to average in the \$66 to \$73 cwt. range, about the same as in 1980, southwest Kansas basis. Seasonally

declining meat supplies during the second and third quarters should push prices modestly higher, averaging in the low \$70's.

Lack of profits in cattle feeding has also been reflected in feeder cattle prices, which were sharply lower in late 1980. "As feeder prices have declined, the spreads between feeder and fat cattle have narrowed from more than \$15 cwt. to the five to seven dollar range," Grunwald said.

"Similarly, the spreads between calves and fed cattle have narrowed to about \$10 to \$12 compared with nearly \$30 cwt. a year earlier."

Choice 400-to-500 lb. calves are likely to average in the upper \$70's and move up into the low or mid-\$80's cwt. by early summer.

Grunwald said the number of heifers held for beef cow replacements—up four percent from last year—suggests the cattle inventory will continue to grow relatively rapidly.

"It looks as though the cattle numbers are expanding too fast, in light of all the factors to consider, for the cattle industry to be profitable," he concluded.

Choice 400-to-500 lb. calves are likely to average in the upper \$70's and move up into the low or mid-\$80's cwt. by early summer.



NEW MEXICO OFFICERS: Selection of the 1980-81 officers for the New Mexico Hereford Assn. was made during the recent hold day held at Taos, N.M. They are: Royce McMillin (front row, left), director; Robin Frost (back row, left), San Juan reporter; Lisa Gardner (back row, right), Summer president; Betty Callahan, Las Cruces, secretary; Stacy Medina, Madera, director; Lisa Blackburn, Breauxview, first vice-president; and Jenni Kasper, Santa Fe, treasurer. Not pictured but elected second vice-president is Casey Jeffers, Santa Fe.

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Supplementing on grass may pay in late summer or during dry year

Is summer supplemental feeding on grass worth the effort?

Compiling results of his research on tall and shortgrass, a Kansas State University range management researcher said, "If we have a dry spring and summer, supplementing might give you a profit edge in cattle."

Ed Smith, speaker at a recent cattlemen's day in Kansas, said early summer grazing gains were more efficient with lower levels of supplementation over a short time period than higher levels. "There are indications also that supplemental grain feeding of cattle on pasture might be effectively used with a feed additive such as Rumensin to increase stocking rate, but, he warned, "Look at the feeding costs and cattle prices closely and especially how interest costs affect the costs of keeping cattle."

The supplements used in the grazing trials that Smith reviewed varied from all grain to an all protein supplement such as cottonseed meal, but most common was a combination of 50% grain and 50% soybean meal. He said a typical supplement for

cattle on grass contained 25 to 30% protein in the Kansas trials. Native grass in Kansas was highest in eastern Kansas and buffalo grass and blue grama in western Kansas.

In the early summer trials, he said, "Supplementing cattle on grass was a money-losing deal." Supplemented cattle showed a daily gain of .23 lbs. per day over the cattle on all grass. If you fed them two or three pounds of supplement at eight cents per pound, that would run the cost of 18 to 24 cents per day. If calves sell at 60 cents a pound, that would mean you would be losing more than two cents per head per day without considering the additional labor or cost of hauling feed out to them in your pickup.

"The reason for the low response to supplementation in early summer is that this is the time when grass would be highest in nutritive value, so you are better off sticking with grass only," said Smith.

Supplemental feeding from July to October presents a slightly different picture, he added. The grass becomes lower in nutritive value and response

is better, but Smith said the producer will have to decide if five cents per head per day gross profit is worth the trouble (that's an cattle selling at 60 cents a pound).

In the Kansas and Oklahoma studies, average increased gain through supplementation was .35 lbs. per day, putting an additional 21 cents per day (.35 lbs. times 60 cents) value on each calf over what it would have returned from grass only. The supplement fed still costs 16 cents per head per day. On 60 head of cattle (five cents per head) the profit would be only \$2.60 per day.

If this doesn't look like it's worth the effort, the producer might save some labor and get similar but slightly reduced gains by feeding every other day or three times a week, he said. A salt-meal mixture in a self-feeder also would give slightly reduced gains.

When Rumensin is added to the late summer supplementation program, the return for labor and hauling the feed increases, but so do input costs, says Smith. Daily gain increased to .46 lbs. per head per day. The growth potential increased the feed costs to 18 cents per

head per day. On 60 head of calves that represents a return over costs of five dollars per day, or for 100 head, \$10 per day. Again, Smith said, feeding less often or using a salt meal mixture could reduce labor but would also slightly reduce the gain picture.

Based on these results, Smith said, "If the grass is green all summer, I wouldn't expect much response from late summer

supplementing and wouldn't recommend the practice."

Reviewing the South Dakota and Nebraska studies on all summer supplementation, he said the data show that low levels of supplementing (one to two pounds daily) present a better response than higher levels (four to eight pounds). He said, "The upper levels of supplementing took a lot of feed to produce a pound

of gain, so the producer might as well move the cattle off pasture to a dry lot."

Smith said low levels of supplement with Rumensin all summer might marginally improve the return, but information in Kansas is too limited to recommend the practice. To date, the best return came from feeding one to two pounds of supplement with Rumensin in late summer.

Smith said low levels of supplement with Rumensin all summer might marginally improve the return, but information in Kansas is too limited to recommend the practice. To date, the best return came from feeding one to two pounds of supplement with Rumensin in late summer.

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Farmer loans to face budget cuts

The proposed Reagan administration budget cuts in the Farmers Home Administration will mean that some farmers will be unable to obtain loans to operate or buy farms, Donald Wilkinson, governor of this Farm Credit Administration told a House of Representatives subcommittee, according to CNS.

Wilkinson, whose organization is an independent federal agency which loans non-federal dollars, said in prepared testimony for the conservation, credit and rural development subcommittee that it is difficult to estimate how many farmers would be unable to get loans if the FMHA cuts are approved.

Those farmers who receive FMHA loans for operations and farm ownership who are at the lower end of the income ladder may not be able to obtain commercial loans or pay commercial interest rates, Wilkinson said.

How much total credit farmers will need in the current and next fiscal year will depend on what net farm income is and how the Reagan administration fares in its fight against inflation, he added.

Wilkinson said disappointing first quarter returns have reduced the outlook for 1981 net farm income to \$25 to \$30 billion from previous USDA estimates of \$28 to \$32 billion.

"The key to actual levels (of net farm income) is how soon we see an improvement in livestock prices," Wilkinson said. "These adjustments might set the stage for a stronger 1982."

As petroleum costs continue to rise, cotton becomes more competitive with polyester, and U.S. manufacturers continue to export more and import fewer cotton goods.

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Book reveals cost of wheat transport

Shipping patterns of U.S. wheat under various export demand situations and transportation rate structures are analyzed in a new Montana Agricultural Experiment Station publication.

"An Economic Analysis of the U.S. Wheat Marketing Structure," Bulletin 722, is based on a study of 54 domestic wheat producing regions, nine foreign importing regions and 11 U.S. export ports. It includes rail, truck, barge and ocean vessel shipments.

The study, based on eight mathematical programming models, was conducted by Won Koo and Gail Cramer, agricultural economists with the station. They also wrote the bulletin.

The publication discusses the least-cost shipping route from U.S. production regions to domestic millers and foreign buyers under different export demand conditions and transportation rates. It also examines existing wheat handling facilities of American ports and evaluates the interdependency between domestic transportation and international trade.

The 36-page publication, featuring a number of tables and maps, is available free from the Extension Mail Room, 19 Pryor Hall, Montana State University, Bozeman 59717.

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| Tom Wilkinson, Clifton | Wiley Berthelson, Meeker |
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| Minks Limousin, Saguache | Lower Valley Limousin, Fruita |
| MAC Land & Cattle, Saguache | Apollo Cattle Company, Fruita |
| Randy Jaeger, Fruita | John Frezieres, Fruita |

Limousin West, Pueblo

Test and sale sponsored by the
Colorado Limousin Breeders Association!

For further information contact: Jerry Robbe • 303/948-3183
Bob Clark John Frezieres • 303/858-7165

Test conducted under the supervision of Bob Clark, CSU Livestock Extension Specialist, Pueblo County.

See the bulls anytime at Chico Feedyard!

Accident leads to life-saving find; daylight calving linked to feeding

Partly by accident and partly through observation, Gus Konefal, Canadian cattle producer, said he stumbled on a way to get cows to calve in the daytime.

And where Konefal lives near Arburg, Manitoba, outside calving time temperatures can go to -10 degrees below zero at night—an added incentive to be inside near a warm stove and outside when the sun warms up the day.

Konefal said in 1975, after he and his father lost half of their feed because of heavy rains, they were forced to buy and haul feed. They completed their first trip to the cow herd at around noon and their second feed delivery at from eight to 10 p.m.

"As we gave them their ration we checked to see if any looked as though they were going to calve. If any did look that way, they were moved into a small yard with a light shed," he said. Nothing seemed to

happen at night, but cows would calve in the daylight hours, Konefal said.

What developed was the Konefal Method of feeding, which he elaborated on for a recent Kansas State University Cattleman's Day audience.

"For a couple of years," he said, "we kept feeding them as late as possible and found they would be busy at night, eating, taking minerals and self and drinking water."

After two years of feeding them at about noon and 10 at night, they found only one or two of their cows calved at night. He concluded it must be from the change in feeding pattern.

Konefal said when he approached the Canada Research Station at Brandon, Manitoba, the researcher thought the idea was crazy, but after a few more visits he persuaded him to record the station's cows as in when they calved during a 24-hour cycle for several years. He wanted that data as a control to compare hours that his own cows calved.

The research station began trials on the Konefal Method in 1980 and again in 1981, feeding at noon and 10 at night.

Konefal said Dave Nichols, an Iowa farmer, and Iowa State University also have tried the Konefal Method with success and he is getting inquiries and reports from many cattlemen in North America who have tried the method.

The Konefal Method of feeding at 10 p.m. at night is a must and should be started approximately two weeks before cows start to calve. Also tried at noon to give the females the energy they need and to keep them moving around at night.

Konefal said, "You must have good records to keep cows away from feed until the prescribed feeding times. The females must have salt, minerals and good drinking water at all times."

"Usually, at the start of the feeding under the Konefal Method you will find cows restless for three to four days, but soon they get adjusted to different times of feeding."

Many operators feed once a day, but he feeds twice in each 24-hour period to give the cows the energy they need to keep warm. It's also

the reason he likes the little grain given at evening feeding. By the time the cows are ready to calve, he said, they are usually bound in the calving he said.

His wife suggested a solution for reducing the night feeding. The Konefal Method of feeding at noon and 10 at night is a must and should be started approximately two weeks before cows start to calve. Also tried at noon to give the females the energy they need and to keep them moving around at night.

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Auction Results

COLLIER DIAMOND CRANCH
Stephenville, Texas, March 7

000 bulls.....\$1,053

Auctioneers: Joe Mitchell and
Cherita Rollins

Tops: Mr. Diamond C M059, 3/3/80 by Mr. Clean; Frank Zeigler, Dublin, \$2500. Mr. Diamond C M051, 11/15/80 by G.L. Tate, Rockwell, \$1000. Mr. Diamond C M728, 3/13/80 by Mr. Clean; Ed Kennar, Stephenville, \$1975. Mr. Diamond C M804, 2/17/80 by Richgold; T.P. Inman, Center, \$1850. Mr. Diamond C M837, 3/11/80 by Richgold; Tom Edmonds, Center, \$1800. Mr. Diamond C M017, 2/23/80 by Richgold; Parker Bros., Fort Worth, \$1500. Mr. Diamond C M098, 3/10/80 by Richgold; Bobby Johnson, Comanche, Okla., \$1500. Mr. Diamond C M823, 3/12/80 by Edment; Tom Edmonds, \$1475. Mr. Diamond C M818, 2/18/80 by Edment; Lerry Simpson, Maverick, \$1375. Mr. Diamond C M110, 3/12/80 by Erlendo; Keith Faye, Rochester, \$1350. Mr. Diamond C M053, 3/2/80 by Alpine Polled Challenge; B.T. Wheeler, San Angelo, \$1300. Mr. Diamond C M075, 3/14/80 by Erlendo; Davis & Davis, Abilene, \$1300.

This moderate crowd stayed and held a steady market throughout this event. The cattle were in fair to good condition considering our long drought conditions. The high selling bull went to rank Zoellers of Dublin, with several buyers taking a volume of the bulls.

—FRED GREEN

Bull Test Results

S.E. COLORADO BULL TEST
Lamar, Colo.

112 Day Report

The top Charolais sire group of 112 days was by Barton 27, owned by Piper Charolais of Springfield. The three bulls averaged 3.99 lbs. average daily gain, and included the top individual Charolais which gained 4.27 lbs. per day.

Thunder Valley Angus Ranch, Lamar, claimed the top Angus sire group by Blue Blood These three bulls averaged 3.38 AOG, and also included the top individual at 3.65 AOG.

The high Hereford sire group at 3.52 AOG and high gaining individual at 3.71 AOG were entered by Oads Hereford Ranch, Prichett, and sired by CL1 Domino 384.

For Polled Herefords, the top individual at 3.68 AOG was again in the top sire group which averaged 3.30, were sired by HPH Victor 217, and owned by Hobbs Polled Herefords, Pano, Kan.

Only one sire group of four was entered in the Simmental breed. They were from Packard Cattle Co., Elbert, and averaged 3.64 AOG. Packard Grand Slam was the sire.

The top bull over all breeds for both ADG and WDA was a Simmental, sired by Gallant, owned by Neil Simmental Farm, Holly. He had an outstanding AOG of 4.70 lbs. and a WDA of 3.50 lbs.

The three Limousin bulls in the test were all sired by Jane Redman 009J, averaged 3.08 AOG, and are owned by Broken Buckle Limousin, Vilas.

Loe Holdingsworth, Ft. Collins, has the top Chianina bull at an excellent gain of 4.29 lbs. per day. Lardo was the sire. A single sire group of three, belonging to Oads Schnabel, Granada, averaged 2.90 and were sired by Fredrick.

The final 140 day weights will be taken March 25, followed by the sale of top performing bulls on April 10. Data on the bulls at sale time will include fat thickness, frame score, and scrotal circumference.

Auction Results

SYMENS BROS. LIMOUSINS
Amherst, S.O., March 9

20 purebred bulls.....\$3,690
19 purebred bull calves.....3,660
20 percentage bulls.....2,993
19 percentage bull calves.....2,437
78 bulls.....3,301
6 open fullblood heifers.....7,506
12 open American purebred heifers.....2,729
2 open 1/2 heifers.....2,625
20 heifers.....4,173
88 head.....3,479

Auctioneer: C.K. "Sonny" Booth
Sole Consultants: American
Cattle Services & Cattle Brokers,
Inc.

Bulls: SYBB Dakota Master Plan, 9/11/79 by Inautionare, Dyer-Sims, Baint, Texas, \$12,000. Mr. Symbras 65L "Spot" 8/7/79, 3/29/79 by Mr. Symbras; Tommy Stowmen, Maryneal, Texas, \$12,000. SY Mr. Gendarme 078L, 10/14/79 by Gendarme; Eberspacher Limousin, Beaver Crossing, Neb., \$7100. Mr. Symbras 245L, 9/26/79 by SY Praggator; Look Out Limousin, Timber Lake, \$6800. Mr. Symbras 277M, 3/7/80 by SYBB Dakota Franchise; Doyor-Sims, 36200. Mr. Symbras 189M, 3/12/80 by SYBB Dakota Slick; Doyor-Sims, \$8200. Mr. SY Slick 4M, 4/10/80 by SYBB Dakota Slick; Ross Lemphers, Sturgis, \$5800. Mr. Symbras 114M, 4/31/80 by SY Nitterider; Neil McMorris, Tazewell, Texas, \$5800.

Females: SYBB Oakole Less 49L, 8/13/79 by Inautionare; Doyor-Sims, \$23,000. SY Miss Gendarme 380L, 10/14/79 by Gendarme; Blingham Limousin, Justin, Texas, \$8700. 6Y Miss Meater Charge 026L, 9/18/79 by Meater Charge; Elkhorn Ranch, Cia Elum, Wash., \$5800. Symbras 24M, 4/5/80 by SY Nitterider; Yackley-GMC Corp., Onida, \$4800.

A large crowd from throughout the U.S. was on hand for the first production sale of the Symens Bros. herd. This large crowd was enthusiastic and excited about the Limousin business, and it was reflected in the price paid. This was one of the very best offerings put together by one firm

for a production sale. The cattle were of top quality, and the crowd appreciated this quality with a good, snappy sale that was strong from start to finish.

The first bull in the ring was a bull that the Symens Bros. have shown very successfully. Mr. Symbras 66L, better known as "Spot." This bull set a new record for a percentage bull in the breed at \$12,000. With this record-making start the rest of the sale was very stout, with no bull selling for less than \$2000—certainly a tribute to this outstanding program.

—JAY PURCHASE

36 ZR bulls.....\$848
25 Cox bulls.....1,013

Auctioneer: Arkie Klehne

Tops: ZR L1 Oom L00, 2/18/80 by Thel L1 Domino 754; ZR Herolorus, Santa Rosa, Jo Gaskin Ranch, Recido, \$1950. Zin Standard Lad EO 71, 5/30/79 by PL 490 Standard Lad 324G; Jay Cox Ranch, Winston, to White Mountain Apache Tribe, Springville, Ariz., \$1550. Zia B113 Lad EO 58, 4/23/79 by Zia O4 Lad B113; Cox to Red Lake Ranches, Magdalena, \$1525. EH BRT Lad 91, 4/27/79 by Zia B113 RR Lad Co 14; Cox to White Mountain Apaches, \$1475. Zia L1 Oomino E090, 8/20/79 by PW M L1 Oomino A5 224; Cox to White Mountain Apaches, \$1400. Zia Allee FO 80, 2/12/80 b FL Lionheart 17; Cox to Roland Rice, Cilli, \$1400. ZR Royal Return L85, 9/31/79 by ZR Prince Return B131; ZR to Don Cullen, Reserve, \$1350. ZR Mill Return L181, 9/12/79 by AR Coloredo Mill 683; ZR to Rob Cox, Orgen, \$1350. Zia 12W 8 Lad E109, 8/20/79 by PL 12W Standard Lad 3753; Cox to Red Lake Ranches, \$1325. Zia Sem Donald F015, 11/18/80 by JOK Beau Donald G22; Cox to Bob Cox, \$1325.

Volume buyers were: White Mountain Apaches; Red Lake Ranches; Berry Hill Enterprises, Pie Town; Jerry McPhaul, Pie Town; Klehne & Sons, Cilli; and

Leonard Holston, Glenwood, and Thomas Smith, Sanders, Ariz.

The sale average was all considerably from last year with the same good crowd of repeat buyers in attendance. The cow/calf operators set their limits and would not go beyond them no matter how good the bull. There were three or four buyers on virtually every bull. In the mind, these were mostly bull calves that had not been supplemented.

Until interest rates come down and the Southwest gets some feed, buyers will remain cautious. This means conservative prices for the good bulls and very low prices for the average bulls.

—LEE PITTS

BEAVER CREEK RANCH
LIMOUSINS
North Platte, Neb., March 3

69 bulls.....\$1,948

Auctioneer: C.K. "Sonny" Booth
Sole Manager: Cattle Brokers,
Inc.

Sale Consultant: American Cattle Services

Tops: OX070L, 9/14/79 by Improver, Gorken Farm, East, \$3000. Pold 59L, 10/28/79 by Helman; Roger Floyd, Hay Center, \$2000. Cope 953L, 9/14/79 by Cope Eclair 705; Vernon Cope, Brewster, \$2600. Cope 968L, 10/12/79 by Cope Eclair 795; Harold Burdick, Lawellen, \$2650. Cope 978L, 11/14/79 by Cope Eclair 795; Arnold Knight Cattle Co., Mullen, \$2650. RUD0902L, 5/10/79 by RR Royal Empire 859H; Lowenstein Farm, St. Louis, \$2450. LK 134L, 4/17/79 by Gendarme, Lowenstein Farm, St. Louis, \$2450.

The Beaver Creek Ranch bull sale drew a big crowd of commercial cattlemen. This top set of bulls met the strong demand as the bidding was active and rapid. The bulls were in working condition and ready to go to work. This was a strong, steady sale from start to finish, with many buyers taking more than one bull.

—JAY PURCHASE

Western Bull Test

Sale: April 18, 1981 • 1:00 p.m.
Jack Shea Feedlot, Delta, Colo.

Ken Troutt—Auctioneer
Free Lunch

40 Hereford Bulls
24 Black Angus Bulls
6 Limousin Bulls

18 Simmental Bulls
8 Red Angus Bulls
3 Charolais Bulls

4 Sater Bulls

Les Hill
Collbran, Colo.
303/487-3725

Herman Sonderquist
County Courthouse
Delta, Colo.
303/874-3519

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- Imagine the extra return in a herd of 500 cows or moral

Innovation

- Innovative breeding brings further profit potential to cattle producers
- Selling at the Western Nebraska Bull Taat Station Sale, Ogallala, Nebraska on April 17 at 12:00 MST will be 3 bulls from an embryo transplant of this planned mating...
- The dam, Miss Gay 638, (a Fred 1st daughter) has been a consistent producer of 11 calves by natural birth. All have calved without assistance.
- Her progeny includea Miss 907, former world record holder for yearling weight and Sandhillier, the graat hard sire at Gantry's Double Hook Ranch, Whitman, Nebraska
- The sire, LCR Royal Parfacto 782, has proven to sire stylish progeny that are polled with excellent disposition and calving ease.
- Also for sale by private treaty are 2 female transplant lltar-matas.

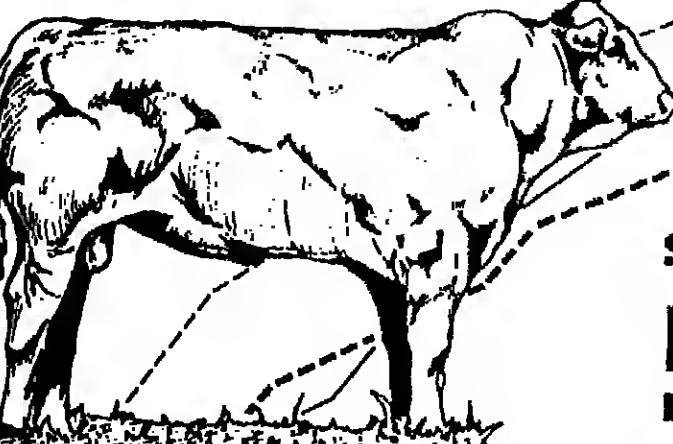
Contari:

Mac Stevens

Home Address
Route Box 8 (W)
Eastls, Neb. 69028
308/488-5556

College Address
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Colorado State University
Fort Collins, Colo. 80521
303/491-2450

Nebraska Simmental Association performance tested BULL SALE




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AUCTIONEER
JIM BALDRIDGE

1:00 p.m., Monday April 6
Lincoln County Fairgrounds
North Platte, Nebraska

These are the top bulls from Nebraska Simmental breeders. All bulls were placed on feed together last fall at the Cattle Growers Feedlot, Stapleton, Neb. for an official 140-day gain test. Only the top performing bulls from the test are being offered in the sale. You can buy with confidence that you are buying only the best performing Simmental bulls.



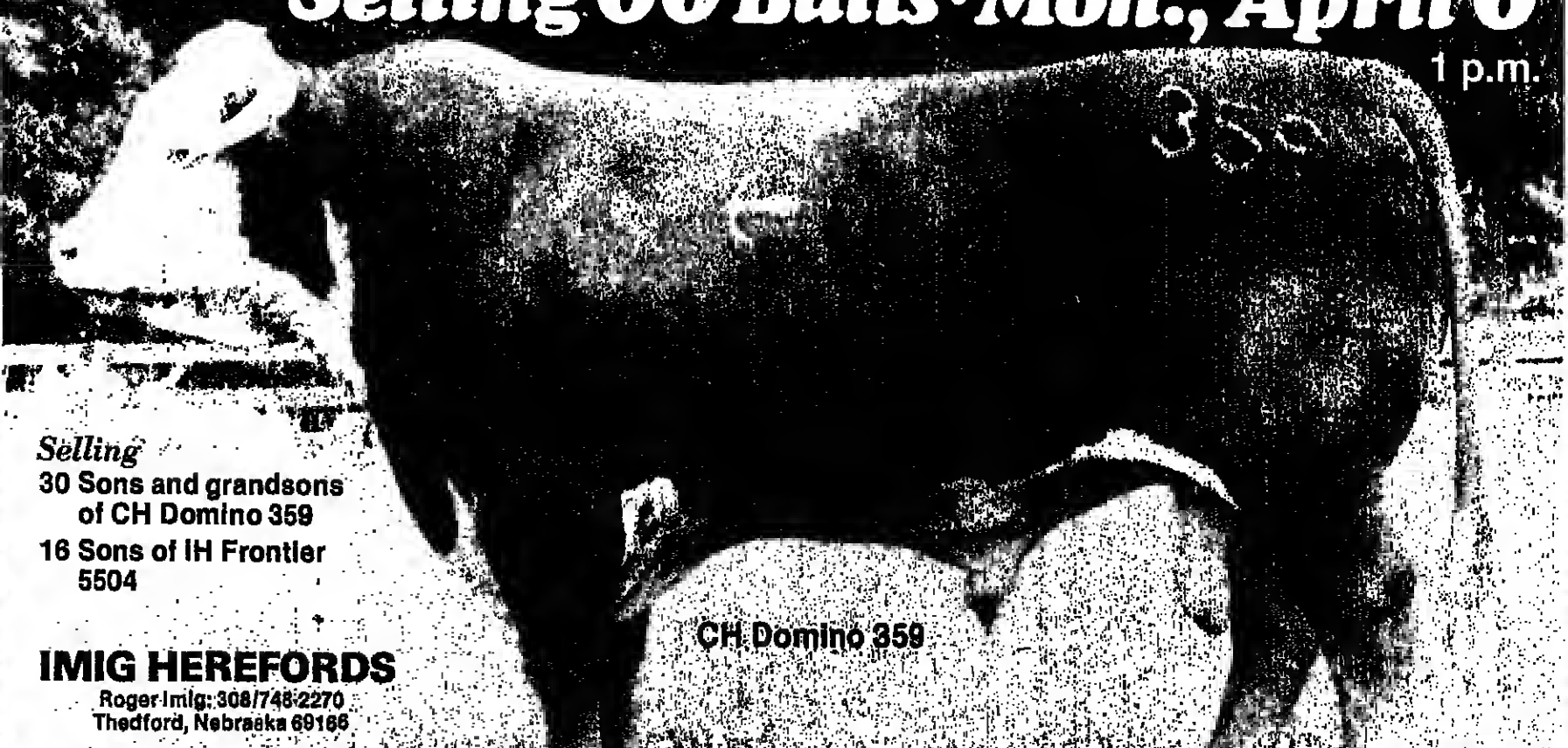
For Further Information, Contact:
DON CLANTON
Bull Test Committee Chairman
914 Grande
North Platte, Nebraska 69101
308/532-1071

JOHN BERGGREN
Secretary, Nebraska Simmental Assn.
Weston, Nebraska 68070
402/442-5698

IMIG Herefords • Thedford, Nebraska

Selling 60 Bulls • Mon., April 6



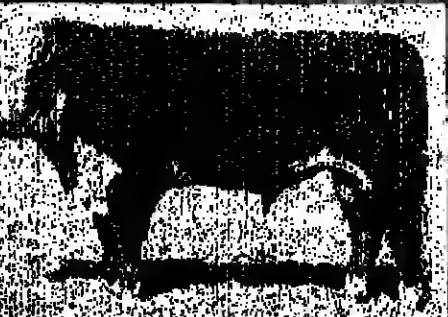
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In 1978, Per capita meat consumption was forecast to increase

sufficiency ratio would rise to 83% from 80%, the draft report said.

U.S. agriculture actually
lived on farms or ranches in
1978.

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